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(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP99/09207 (22) International Filing Date: 24 November 1999 (24.11.99) (30) Priority Data: 9825946.8 26 November 1998 (26.11.98) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ISTITUTO DI RICERCHE DI BIOLOGIA MOLECOLARE P ANGELETTI SPA [IT/IT]; Via Pontina KM 30.600, I-00040 Pomezia (IT). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): PESSI, Antonello [IT/IT]; Via Monte Bianco, 63, I-00141 Rome (IT). INGALLINELLA, Paola [IT/IT]; Via Zara, 15, I-00040 Pomezia (IT). BIANCHI, Elisabetta [IT/IT]; Via Sabotino, 31, I-00195 Rome (IT). (74) Agents: NICHOLLS, Kathryn, M. et al.; Mewburn Ellis, York House, 23 Kingsway, London WC2B 6HP (GB).		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOUNDS FOR THE INHIBITION OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS NS3 PROTEASE (57) Abstract <p>Peptidic inhibitors of hepatitis C virus NS3 protease are disclosed which are based on the P and P' regions of the natural substrate. The P' part of the inhibitor is optimised to achieve maximum binding energy through interaction with the S' region of the enzyme. By selecting amino acids such that the inhibitor is substantially not cleavable by the NS3 protease inhibitors having potency in the low nanomolar to sub-nanomolar range can be achieved.</p>		

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